14 August 1959

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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TOP SECRET



India: Prime Minister Nehru, reviewing current problems in Sino-Indian relations before Parliament on 13 August, reiterated his government's determination to resist any infringement by Peiping of Indian rights in the Tibetan region. He noted that representations had been made to Peiping regarding the treatment of persons of Indian origin residing in Tibet and Indian traders in the area, and repeated earlier assurances in response to opposition queries that India's frontier would be defended against any Chinese encroachment. Nehru's comments probably were prompted by his irritation with Peiping as well as by his need to appease continuing anti-Chinese sentiment in India. New Delhi apparently does not, however, intend to alter its basic policy toward Communist China.

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Mali Federation: The leaders of Mali--a federation of the French Community states of Senegal and Soudan--threaten to withdraw from the Paris-centered Community by 1961 at the latest unless President de Gaulle agrees to transform the Community into a commonwealth of independent nations. Mali's secession would probably be followed by close association with Guinea in forming the nucleus of a West African federation. Such a development would probably have considerable appeal to nationalists in several other autonomous French republics in West Africa.

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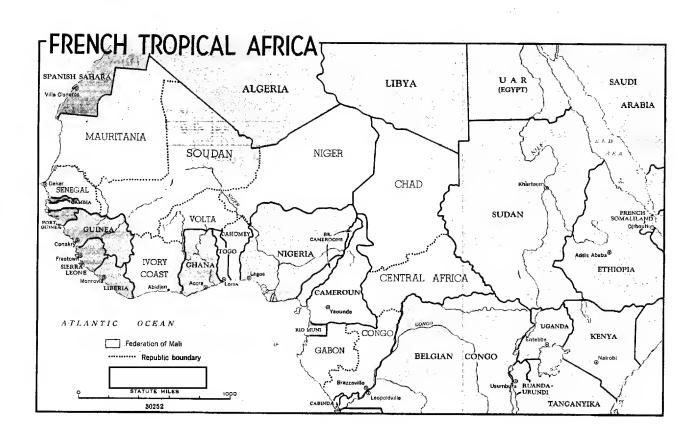
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French Community Faces Dissension in West Africa

The process of defining the future status of the autonomous republics of the French Community in West Africa may cause serious difficulties between them and Paris. At present the powers of the Community are centered at Paris, but some African leaders, particularly those of the Federation of Mali--comprising the republics of Senegal and Soudandemand rapid independence and transformation of the Community into a commonwealth of fully independent nations.

Mali President Keita recently stated that at least Soudan-and probably Senegal--is preparing for independence in 1960 or early 1961 because the Mali leaders do not believe the Community structure will be changed to their liking. Keita believes that an independent Mali--which, according to President Sekou Touré of Guinea, will eventually also include his country--will have considerable appeal in the name of African unity to other West African autonomous republics.

Houphouet-Boigny, the main proponent of the present organization of the Community and a leading pro-French African spokesman, has recently indicated that serious difficulties have	
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